Dear Kathryn Reid;

Aside from a nose that is dripping like a leaking faucet I am fine thank you, and I hope you are too.

Your letter is a delight and a joy to me and I must say it is one of the brightest I have received in a long time! Let me first say that it gives me so much pleasure to learn that you like my drawings, and then I can say how lucky I am that I can do work that I enjoy so much. I do hope that you will find the same kind of pleasure from whatever work you decide to do in your grown up life.

You ask how long have I been an artist? I did start drawing when I was eight years old because a school teacher encouraged me. After drawing all through high school and then going to art school I am and have been drawing for so many years I can hardly add them all together! In Nails to Nickels the color was blended together in a splatter way by using a sponge. I have illustrated over 250 books and I have written over thirteen books.

You have said something so simply and so importantly in your letter, and that is that a drawing helps add further to our knowledge by extending the meaning of words. Thank you so much for writing and I have a feeling that you will grow up and be a wonderful human being.

Very sincerely,